

Dear Sirs /Madames: The ability to have cross ownership in broadcast media is very unhealthy politically as it leads to a single view point being the only one available. This is particularly true of smaller cities like Yakima. Our one talk radio station is owned by ClearChannel. It is the ONLY English media talk radio and ClearChannel is moving into the Spanish media market as well. They are only a right-wing outlet. They don't have other viewpoints on the air. This may not seem like a problem but it is. In Soviet Russia and Saddam's Iraq, only one view point was allowed on the air. When you have only one view point allowed in public what you do not have is a market place of ideas, you do not have choice. You then end up with slanted news which is selected to serve that view point rather than to lay bare the facts. I for one did not grow up in a society like that, nor was I educated to think such a state of affairs represents what our Founding Fathers fought for and died for. It is very expensive to be involved with broadcasting or print media, there are legitimate costs of labor, licensing and etc., then there is the fact that the costs get bid up into the stratosphere by wealthy individuals and corporate entities. It would be better to have some variety right in the Yakima Valley. KIT in particular since it's purchase by ClearChannel has become increasingly less expressive of tolerance, less willing to cover diverging points of view. I think it's one thing to have a point of view I may not like on the air, but I can't even turn the dial for something else in my own language. Soon it may not even be possible to get a differing point of view in another language. It is vital that the FCC act to preserve variety in broadcast and print media. I do NOT favor any further loosening of the regulations on cross-ownership of broadcast and print media. In fact I think these rules are already far too loose. I would favor tightening them up and some program that would make it possible for more than one viewpoint to be on the air. No one is going to force neutrality in a free society, nor would I care much for that, I am just asking for a greater variety of biased viewpoints. Maybe people from each view point would select facts and somewhere in the middle you would find the truth. The way things stand in Yakima an English speaking person does not have that option. It's resulted in this area being one of the most bigoted places I've ever lived. This bigotry was not always a fact of life in the Yakima Valley. Thank you for your attention to the thoughts of the citizens of this country who want to preserve the freedoms which are the greatest blessing of life in America.

Sincerely
Aileen Kane